

## Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 L-02 IO-10 /038 W  
----- 070453

R 211430Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3802  
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMCONSUL DURBAN  
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ELAB, SF  
SUBJECT: TUCSA'S REACTION TO AFL-CIO DECISION NOT TO SEND FACT-FINDING MISSION TO SOUTH AFRICA

REF: JOHANNESBURG 0427

1. TUCSA'S OFFICIAL REACTION TO AFL-CIO DECISION NOT TO SEND FACT-FINDING MISSION TO SOUTH AFRICA BUT TO RECOMMEND INSTEAD THAT TUCSA CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE COURSE OF ACTION (REFTEL) WAS CAUTIOUSLY NONCOMMittal RATHER THAN UNFAVORABLE AND IS EXPRESSED IN FOLLOWING LETTERS FROM TUCSA GENERAL SECRETARY GROBBELAAR TO AFL-CIO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR LEE. ACCORDING TO GROBBELAAR, HOWEVER, UNOFFICIAL REACTION WAS QUITE UNFAVORABLE WITH PROMINENT MEMBERS OF TUCSA EXECUTIVE EXPRESSING RESENTMENT AT AFL-CIO'S PATRONIZING "FATHER-KNOWS-BEST" ATTITUDE AND INCLINED TO TELL AFL-CIO "THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ADVICE BUT WE'VE DECIDED TO GO IT ALONE." PROBLEM IS THAT TUCSA NEEDS ASSISTANCE HENCE DECISION TO KEEP LINES OF COMMUNICATION OPEN.

A. FEBRUARY 14, 1975:

"DEAR BROTHER LEE,

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"RE: TRADE UNION EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME IN SOUTH AFRICA.

"MANY THANKS FOR YOUR COMPREHENSIVE LETTER OF THE 28TH JANUARY, 1975, IN RESPONSE TO MY COMMUNICATION OF THE 25TH OCTOBER, 1974. I PERSONALLY FIND THE SUGGESTIONS MADE IN YOUR LETTER UNDER REPLY TO BE VERY INTERESTING AND I DO THINK THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF MERIT IN PROCEEDING ALONG THE LINES OF YOUR SUGGESTION.

"I SHALL SHORTLY BE PLACING YOUR LETTER BEFORE THE RELEVANT COMMITTEES OF TUCSA FOR THEIR ATTENTION, AND AS SOON AS I AM ABLE TO I WILL ACQUAINT YOU WITH THE DECISION OF THE COUNCIL AS TO WHETHER OR NOT TUCSA WILL NOT ONLY BECOME INVOLVED, BUT PLAY A LEADING ROLE, IN ESTABLISHING THE LABOUR EDUCATION INSTITUTE ENVISAGED.

"IN THE INTERIM, SINCERE GOOD WISHES.

"YOUR SINCERELY AND FRaternally, (SIGNED) J.A. GROBBELAAR,  
GENERAL SECRETARY. UNQTE.

QTE 20 MARCH, 1975, MR. E.S. LEE, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS, 81 SIXTEENTH STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEAR BROTHER LEE, RE:

TRADE UNION EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME IN SOUTH AFRICA.

"FURTHER TO MY LETTER DATED THE 14TH FEBRUARY 1975, IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE, IT GIVES ME PLEASURE TO ADVISE THAT THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL HAS DECIDED THAT THE COUNCIL MUST TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN INSTITUTING A MORE COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME OF TRADE UNION EDUCATION FOR ALL ELEMENTS IN OUR SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY.

"THE TRADE UNION EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF TUCSA HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATE THIS QUESTION AND FURNISH RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE STEPS THAT MUST BE TAKEN BY TUCSA TO BRING THE PROGRAMME TO FRUITATION. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT AN AUTONOMOUS INDEPENDENT INSTITUTE OF LABOR EDUCATION WILL BE SEEN TO BE THE MOST SUITABLE INSTRUMENT FOR MEETING THIS NEED.

"I WILL COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY TO YOU AS SOON AS I AM ABLE TO, THE NATURE OF THE PROGRAMME DECIDED UPON, AS ALL OTHER RELATIVE DECISIONS IN THIS REGARD. I CAN ONLY ADD THAT PRIORITY IS BEING GIVEN TO THE PROJECT, AND SOME RESULTS SHOULD EVENTUATE IN THE FAIRLY NEAR FUTURE.

"YOUR SINCERELY AND FRaternally, (SIGNED) J.A. GROBBELAAR,  
GENERAL SECRETARY UNQTE.

GUTHRIE

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NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONNEL TRAINING, INVITATIONS, LABOR UNIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
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**Draft Date:** 21 MAR 1975  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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